

# ALABAMA'S

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# HEALTH

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## Nurse Family Partnership home visitation program achieves success

**A**labama's Nurse Family Partnership Program received word that it has been granted funding totaling \$360,000. The program provides home visits to low-income first time parents from pregnancy through their child's second birthday. It operates in areas 7 and 10 with funding from Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.

Nurse home visitors work with low income, first time teen mothers to improve pregnancy outcomes, prevent future unplanned pregnancies and promote a positive maternal life course. Participation in the intensive program is strictly voluntary. Alabama's participants are quite high-risk in that 89 percent are teens and participants are mainly African American and poor.

Nurses associated with the program have sponsored special events such as hosting baby showers for participants, publishing quarterly newsletters and awarding certificates of completion to graduates.

Even though the Nurse Family Partnership Program only began in 2000, it has proved successful already, and will receive \$180,000 to continue. Joyce Conn, the West Alabama coordinator, relayed a few recent success stories in the program's colorful quarterly newsletter.

For example, one graduate is continuing her college education at Mississippi State University majoring in biology with a career goal of veterinary medicine. She hopes to attend Tuskegee University. In Sumter County five participants attended a Heartsaver CPR training class.

A Marengo County family has enjoyed raising twin boys, now 17 months old. Although the task was daunting at first, they have received plenty of support from family and friends. Both of the twins' parents have jobs; the

mother works in the evening and the father in the day. At night the father and his sister keep the boys while their mother is away. In Wilcox County several high school seniors enrolled in the program have applied for college scholarships.

In Public Health Area 10 the program was funded \$180,000 to continue serving young women in Houston and Barbour counties, and to add a program in Henry/Dale counties. Each year of the grant the program is evaluated by the National Center for Children, Families and Communities at the University of Colorado.

The evaluation report compares Alabama's program to other Nurse Family Partnership programs across the U.S.

Public Health Area 10 Nursing Director Eileen Rogers reported the highlights from this year's report:

- Alabama Nurse Family Partnership participants had a repeat pregnancy rate of 0 percent at 6 months postpartum and 3 percent at one year postpartum. Nationally the NFP repeat pregnancy rates were 4 percent at 6 months and 13 percent at 1 year.
- Although the overall prematurity rate was higher in Alabama than nationally the race-specific rates demonstrated that Alabama's African American prematurity rate of 11.3 percent in NFP participants was lower than the rate of prematurity in African American NFP participants nationally (12.1 percent).
- Immunization completion rates for Alabama's NFP participants' infants were 94 to 100 percent

*Nurse.....continued on page 2*

by 1 year of age.

- There were statistically significant increases in the number of Alabama NFP participants working at 6 and 12 months of infant age as compared to program entry; and no significant change in school enrollment. Nationally, NFP participants showed significant decreases in school enrollment at 6 and 12 months of infant age.
- There were significant increases in the use of WIC, TANF and Food Stamps over program intake in the Alabama NFP program.

Ms. Rogers said, “I think the data as well as the wonderful stories we hear from the nurses show what a difference the NFP nurses are making in the lives of unmarried pregnant women in the state.”

A nurse in Barbour County said that four of her patients are now in junior college. One of these was a 16-year-old who dropped out of high school, was encouraged to get her GED, and is now attending junior college. Another patient attends the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

In Houston County one NFP participant is pursuing a career in the U.S. Air Force. Many participants have graduated from high school and are employed.

“These are real achievements for these young women, and fulfill one of the Nurse Family Partnership goals of helping these women create a vision for their futures and

become self sufficient.”

The Nurse-Family Partnership represents a highly refined approach to home visiting. Specifically, the program achieves three important objectives:

(1) Improves pregnancy outcomes by helping women practice sound health-related behaviors. These include obtaining good prenatal care from their physicians, improving diet, and reducing use of cigarettes, alcohol and illegal drugs.

(2) Improves child health and development by helping parents provide more responsible and competent care for their children.

(3) Improves families’ economic self-sufficiency by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education, and find jobs.

The program addresses women’s health behaviors related to substance abuse and nutrition, which help improve pregnancy outcomes. After delivery, the emphasis is on family caregiving for infants and toddlers to prevent child maltreatment and injury. The program focuses on preventing unintended pregnancies, school drop out, failure to find work and welfare dependence. The program enhances informal support for families.

Throughout the course of the program, there is a consistent focus on the five domains of family functioning:

*Nurse.....continued on page 9*

**Alabama Department of Public Health**  
**Mission**  
 To serve the people of Alabama by assuring conditions in which they can be healthy.  
**Value Statement**  
 The purpose of the Alabama Department of Public Health is to provide caring, high quality and professional services for the improvement and protection of the public’s health through disease prevention and the assurance of public health services to resident and transient populations of the state regardless of social circumstances or the ability to pay.  
 The Department of Public Health works closely with the community to preserve and protect the public’s health and to provide caring quality services.

## ALABAMA’S HEALTH

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Informational materials in alternative formats will be made available upon request..

# William B. Johnston, D.V.M.

**D**r. William Benjamin Johnston, 56, state public health veterinarian for the past 10 years, died Aug. 4 after a brief illness.

In notifying health department employees, Dr. Charles Woernle, assistant state health officer for disease control and prevention, noted Dr. Johnston's uncommon "enthusiasm, creativity and wit." He added, "Bill initiated many worthwhile programs to reduce the likelihood of people becoming sick from animals. He'll always be remembered for his exceptional knowledge and his congenial, uplifting personality. We'll all miss him."

"Bill Johnston was an innovator, a leader, a communicator who loved people, and a professional who cared deeply about his community and state," said Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer.

A graduate of Auburn University with B.S. and D.V.M. degrees, he had a private veterinary practice for seven years, while also serving as an instructor in chemistry, anatomy and physiology at Snead State Junior College and a county rabies inspector.

He was a veterinary medical officer from 1980 to 1985 and an animal industry veterinarian from 1985 to 1993. He also served for four years as a consultant/inspector for the Alabama State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

Dr. Johnston was on the team of national leaders working on planning efforts to control raccoon rabies with oral rabies vaccination. He also coordinated and published in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* in 1996 a national survey of rabies control procedures, and was board certified by the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. Dr. Johnston served as president of the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians and as president of the Alabama Veterinary Medicine Association. He was named that association's Veterinarian of the Year in 1998, and held many other positions of leadership.

Among the many programs with which he worked were a West Nile virus surveillance project and rabies control. Dr. Johnston was praised for his high degree of professionalism and his accessibility to both veterinarians and the general public.

Others remember his kindness and generosity to co-workers, such as his frequent donations of sick leave to other employees. Administrative Assistant Joan McGough said Dr. Johnston made these donations regardless of whether he knew the recipient.

The president of the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Millicent Eidson, MA, DVM,



Dr. Johnston is shown with his dog Eclair.

DACVPM, of New York, in communicating with veterinary colleagues praised him for his "courage, humor and support for those around him."

Dr. Eidson said, "He was a great example to new and old public health practitioners alike, on how to balance science with policy, and how to work with others to get things done. He was incredibly smart and insightful on issues, very passionate about protecting public health, but he was one of those special people who knew how to persuade others to his point of view with his southern charm. Whenever you saw him, he was ready with a grin and a hug."

She continued, "Even after he became ill, he was still helping and encouraging others, ending notes with 'You're my hero!' or 'You're the greatest.' Of course, his colleagues feel those accolades really apply to him."

Survivors include his wife of 36 years, Lynette Daniel Johnston; son Charles Daniel Johnston; and daughter, Julie Johnston Stone; three grandchildren; mother Dorothy Nelson Johnston; brother, Robert Foster Johnston; and sister, Mary Johnston Haney.

Memorials may be made to the Auburn University Foundation College of Veterinary Medicine, 317 S. College St., Auburn, Ala. 36849; or his beloved church, First United Methodist Church of Wetumpka, 306 W. Tuskeena St., Wetumpka, Ala. 36092.

# Unwed pregnancy prevention program working to change lives



**B**etween 1960 and 2000, the percent of births to unmarried mothers in Alabama almost tripled from 11.6 percent to 34.3 percent. To address the issue of unwed births in the state the Alabama Department of Public Health in partnership with the Alabama

Department of Human Resources created the Alabama Unwed Pregnancy Prevention Program with the goal of reducing unwed births and encouraging responsible behavior among women of childbearing age. Since its inception the program has assisted more than 21,000 persons in 22 counties in Alabama.

“Before this program there were pockets of activities supported by communities to address the teen pregnancy problem, statewide, whether it was trying to provide activities for youth that focused on targeting teen pregnancy directly or indirectly. The problem was that most of these small agencies/organizations never had a steady stream of funding. Therefore, would start and then stop and then eventually try to start again. With this program we are now able to give these communities money so that they can continue their work,” said Phyllis Gilchrist, director of the Alabama Unwed Pregnancy Prevention Program in the Bureau of Family Health Services.

Gilchrist began the project in January 1999 after receiving bonus funds through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families welfare block program. Alabama was one of five states to receive the out-of-wedlock bonus based on a decrease in unwed births and reduced abortion rates. The program focuses primarily on teens and women age 19-25.

The first step for the program was the funding of 30-plus projects statewide. Then the program launched a media campaign that included four primetime public service announcements encouraging parents and teens to have better communication. A hotline was developed that allows teens and parents to call to receive material and information on pregnancy prevention and abstinence.

“The hotline provides information to teens and parents. Teens who call the hotline are mailed information on abstinence and are encouraged to have their parents call the hotline for additional information. Parents and other caregiving adults are provided with information to effectively communicate with youth, and are encouraged

to share their values and expectation with teens. Young people are smart; they just need the right information to make the appropriate right decisions,” said Gilchrist. Through AUPPP, funding has been provided to over 30 community-based projects throughout the state. These projects follow a variety of different methods and are offered through different types of organizations such as churches, schools, county health departments and county agencies.

“We let the communities decide what they want to present to their communities. If they want to teach abstinence only or talk about a combination of both abstinence and contraception methods, it’s up to them. We feel that these organizations know and understand what their communities need better than we do,” said Gilchrist.

In addition to the community-based projects, AUPPP is working with the University of Alabama at Birmingham to develop a Web-based resource directory of services and agencies in Alabama that addresses the issues surrounding unwed pregnancy. AUPPP also provides funding for a project with the Auburn University Cooperative Extension System to assess community opinions and determine why 19-25-year-old women, who have the highest number of unwed pregnancies, are deciding not to marry. The study’s aim is to develop cultural and county appropriate strategies for encouraging a decline of unwed pregnancies in this age group.

Through AUPPP funds, the Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy was established, along with two local campaigns located in Tuscaloosa and Montgomery. These campaigns are patterned after the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization located in Washington, D.C., that addresses teen pregnancy from a national perspective.

“We’ve also provided funds to the Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to support its efforts in assisting pediatricians improve their skills in assessing adolescents.

“In addition to providing funds, we have held several workshops and conferences to provide current information and teaching materials for agencies and organizations to implement within their programs,”

Recently AUPPP funded and participated in the production of the publication titled “Births to Unwed Mothers in Alabama,” a detailed statistical analysis of unwed births in the state that serves as a tool to involve those who may be unaware of the depths of the problem in

*Pregnancy.....continued on page 5*

# Retired employee celebrates 100th birthday

July 10 was a special day for Mabel Bennett, a former employee who retired in 1965 and worked for the Bureau of Vital Statistics which is now known as the Center for Health Statistics. This day marked her 100th birthday. Family and friends gathered to celebrate this momentous event with this bright, lovely lady.

In 2008, which is only five years away, the Center for Health Statistics will also celebrate 100 years of service since 1908 when the Office of Vital Statistics was formed. Members of the Center for Health Statistics staff signed several large birthday cards for Mrs. Bennett's birthday and State Health Officer, Dr. Donald Williamson, and State Registrar Dorothy Harshbarger signed a certificate recognizing Mrs. Bennett.

Donna Little, director of the Administrative Services Division, and Bill Duke, director of the Records Services Division, ensured that Mrs. Bennett received her much due recognition from the department. Ms. Little discussed some of the changes that have taken place at the Center over the years concerning computers and technology used in the issuance of vital records.

Records maintained by the Office of Personnel and Staff Development confirmed that Mabel Bennett was first

employed on March 16, 1941, and retired effective Oct. 29, 1965, as a clerk typist.

When asked, "What is the secret to a long life?" Mrs. Bennett answered, "My dear mother and father tried to instill in us a love of the good Lord, and that there is an appointed time for each of us. I've always heard that godliness and contentment are great gain."



Mrs. Mabel Bennett

Her granddaughter remarked that Mrs. Bennett is totally unselfish and is easy to live with. Mrs. Bennett's daughter, Betty Janney, with whom she lives, agreed, "She has been tractable all her life." Mrs. Bennett and her husband had been married just under 60 years when he died 21 years ago.

Health wise, Mrs. Bennett recounted that she never smoked or drank alcohol. She worked in the old Vital Statistics office on Dexter Avenue. Physical activity also paid off. Instead of riding the bus to shop downtown during her lunch hours, she enjoyed walking to the stores several blocks away. Her co-workers teased her about the money she saved on the five-cent bus fares. She concluded, "I just tried to live simply and not overdo."

After her initial career as housewife and mother, Mrs. Bennett read in the newspaper in 1941 that the state clerical examination was being given. Mrs. Bennett took the exam and accepted employment at a pay rate of \$80 per month (50 cents an hour). She remembers with affection Chief Clerk Olivia McNair who was an excellent worker who subsequently became one of her best friends.

Despite all the intervening years, she has many memories of the past. At that time photostatic copies of birth and death certificates cost 50 cents each. Waiting

*Bennett.....continued on page 6*

## Pregnancy.....continued from page 4

Alabama.

Also AUPPP funded and collaborated with other state agencies, public and private, in the production of the publication "What Childbearing Costs the State," a detailed cost analysis of the economic impact of teen pregnancy and unwed pregnancy in Alabama. Both publications are excellent resources for legislators, educators, counselors, medical personnel, and anyone who is concerned about unwed and teen pregnancy.

"We are gradually seeing the rate of unwed births decrease in the state, without an increase in abortions and that's a very positive thing. It's just a very slow process, but things are changing in the state," said Gilchrist.

For more information and to download copies of the publications please visit the AUPPP Web site at [www.adph.org/AUPPP](http://www.adph.org/AUPPP), or contact Phyllis Gilchrist at 334-206-5675, [Pgilchrist@adph.state.al.us](mailto:Pgilchrist@adph.state.al.us).

By TAKENYA STOKES

rooms and drinking fountains were segregated by race. Dr. D.G. Gill then was state health officer.

Mrs. Bennett's chief work responsibility was as corrections clerk. In the 40s, the records vault was located downstairs in an old wood-frame residence which had been converted into offices. The records vault spanned from floor to ceiling, and a maid and porter would pull the heavy bound volumes for the clerical staff and send them through a dumbwaiter. But to expedite her work sometimes she would climb the ladder to retrieve the volumes herself. After her long years of coding counties by number, she can still recall the names of all 67 Alabama counties in order. She was employed there when the bureau moved to the new air-conditioned State Office Building.

Mrs. Bennett's descendents include her daughter, three grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren. For her birthday all of them came from Texas, Georgia and Alabama for the surprise celebration. Her 100th birthday was announced on television stations in Birmingham and Montgomery, and she received a stack of birthday cards from far and wide.

Mrs. Bennett is the daughter of Lucinda and George Brunson and a native of Luverne in Crenshaw County. She married Aubrey Graham Bennett after he graduated from Auburn University in 1922. He was an electrical engineer with Western Railways.

Mrs. Bennett remembers the horse and buggy days, the sinking of the Titanic, the Great Depression, many great

inventions, and numerous presidents over the past century. During the Great Depression, her residence became a popular spot for respite. She recalls cooking many a breakfast for people who were unemployed and hungry. In fact, they learned that destitute people had marked arrows in chalk on the sidewalk directing those in need from the street car line to their home.

The Bennett's lived in the same house on Federal Drive in Montgomery for 50 years. Later, Mrs. Bennett lived with their daughter in Alabaster. Mother and daughter now have returned to reside in the same area of Montgomery. She has been a member of Capitol Heights United Methodist Church for over 76 years.

After she became eligible for Social Security she filed her paperwork for retirement, but then State Registrar Ralph Roberts convinced her to work a couple of months longer.

She has drawn a state retirement check for the past 38 years, even though she only worked for the state for 24 years. Although her vision has failed her, she enjoys listening to game shows on television. She has never watched a soap opera. Her keen mind remains alert, she is quite a conversationalist and she is loved by all.

Mrs. Bennett's daughter said that the entire family is very appreciative of the citation and cards from the health department. They were particularly amused that one employee wrote on the card, "We have an opening; come on back."

## In memory of Georgia Ann Hebert

Georgia Ann Hebert of the Division of Health Care Facilities died in Montgomery July 26 after a long illness. Mrs. Hebert was first employed with the Department of Public Health in June of 1988, and first worked as a nursing supervisor in the Montgomery County Health Department. In February of 1990, she transferred to what was then the Division of Licensure and Certification. She served as a nursing home surveyor, a complaint surveyor, an assisted living surveyor, an assisted living unit director, and, finally, as a field and classroom trainer for other surveyors.

"She was known to all of us as a person of integrity, wit, and strength of character. Those who were with her near the end report that her faith never wavered," said Rick Harris, director of the Bureau of Health Provider Standards.

In a eulogy to Mrs. Hebert, Harris praised her strong skills in conducting complaint investigations at assisted living facilities. He found her to be "someone with a strong voice and a strong will who demanded to be heard." Harris noted, "The people who do the kind of work Georgia Ann did, who go into nursing homes and health care facilities and who see week in and week out the human suffering that is caused by greed and incompetence can easily become cynical. We become so disappointed, so traumatized by what we see and learn that we simply give up and expect the worst from others. We lose our faith, we lose our hope, and we lose our ability to love.

"But that never happened to Georgia Ann, and I really think it was because she was so stubborn. She witnessed some indescribably terrible things happening to vulnerable

*Mrs. Hebert.....continued on page 8*

# Garden adds art and memories to Pine Apple walking trail

Pine Apple residents will not only be able to stop and smell the flowers these days, but also take a stroll down memory lane courtesy of a newly created garden in their neighborhood. Artist Christine Goetz's creation, "Grandmother's Garden," recently added to the Pine Apple Walking trail features a look into a rural grandmother's home complete with table, chairs, pots and pans, window and door. A vegetable and flower garden outline the makeshift home and a clothesline helps add



Sister Kathy stands at the doorway to "Grandmother's Garden."

even more authenticity.

Goetz is a Catholic artist and retired art teacher from New Mexico who learned about the Pine Apple community from a public television special reporting on Dr. Roseanne Cook and her work at the Pine Apple Clinic. She decided that she wanted to bring art to the community. Once she arrived in Pine Apple she was inspired to create the memory garden after gathering recollections from local citizens about their grandmothers' homes.

The idea coincided perfectly with Sister Kathy Navarra's desire to have some landscaping done to the trail. Sister Kathy is a community outreach worker with Edmundite Missions who works in the Pine Apple community,

"Christine really brought the community together on this project," said Sister Kathy. "Everything in the garden was donated. And we have volunteers from the community who come out and help maintain the garden."

The garden is literally filled with memories of the community. Residents from Pine Apple brought Goetz

items from their family homes such as tables, chairs and wheelbarrows. To add even more of a community connection to the project, commemorative stones with the names of residents' grandmothers were included.

The trail is the result of a rural community health initiative sponsored by the University of Alabama at Birmingham. It is a quarter of a mile with motivational signs located along the trail and surrounded by mostly wooded area. The memory garden provides a welcome scenery change for walkers that includes all members of the community.

"Christine wanted to show people that art is more than just drawing. She wanted people to see that art is an appreciation of everything around you," said Sister Kathy.

The walking trail is just one the many projects that have been completed in the Pine Apple community. Some of the other projects the community center offers included an Arthritis Self-Help Course coordinated by the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Alabama Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation and the University of Alabama; a farmer's market sponsored by the Alabama Department of Public Health's Cardiovascular Health Program; and a Walk! Alabama program sponsored by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

"The community has truly appreciated the walking trail. We have elderly that come out here to walk as well as young people. Some come early in the morning and others come late at night. It's a safe place for residents to walk," said Sister Kathy.



Artist Christine Goetz wanted to bring art to Pine Apple.

By TAKENYA STOKES

# Speaking of Retirement Check with the RSA

**T**he RSA has become increasingly aware that private, “for profit” companies are advertising they have “retirement experts” or “retirement specialists” who can advise public school teachers and public employees on their retirement plans. These are private companies seeking to sell financial services and, in turn, make a substantial profit from your account. While they may know the plan they are marketing, they do not know the details of the RSA plans. You should not rely upon their “expert” advice with respect to TRS, ERS, JRF, PEIRAF or RSA-1. Please be aware that these companies do not represent the RSA and cannot know our plans nor the laws and regulations the way our counselors do. If any of these private plans or their employees tell you that they represent the RSA, please call us immediately and advise us of that fact.

## The Best Way To Contact A Retirement Counselor!

Phone number: 334-832-4140 or 800-214-2158

Division	Extension	E-mail address
TRS	499	trsinfo@rsa.state.al.us
ERS	399	ersinfo@rsa.state.al.us
RSA-1, PEIRAF	299	rsa1info@rsa.state.al.us

The RSA counselors are available 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to answer your questions and advise you with respect to your retirement accounts. RSA issues numerous publications explaining our programs and these publications may be found on our Web site at [www.rsa.state.al.us](http://www.rsa.state.al.us). The RSA conducts retirement planning seminars and personal counseling sessions (also listed on the Web site) throughout the state on a regular basis. Individuals may make appointments for personal counseling in our offices or may simply drop in during regular business hours for counseling with respect to their retirement accounts.

If you have a question about one of our retirement plans or about your personal account, **CHECK WITH THE RSA.**

*Prepared by the Communications staff of the Retirement Systems of Alabama. To have your questions answered in “Speaking of Retirement”, please address them to Mike Pegues, Communications, Retirement Systems of Alabama, 135 South Union St., P. O. Box 302150, Montgomery, Ala. 36130-2150.*

## Mrs. Hebert.....continued from page 6

elderly people. I know, because I read her reports. But she never gave up on others.

“Without any objective reason to do so, she always expected the best. Without any empirical evidence to support her beliefs, she always held onto her hope that our efforts would have a positive result. She never lost sight of what brings us to this work in the first place, which is a genuine sense of caring and love for the residents and patients we are charged with protecting.”

Mrs. Hebert “had rigorous expectations” about the quality of care that nursing homes and assisted living facilities should deliver to their residents and was stubborn and uncompromising in handling difficult cases.

Survivors include her husband, Richard, son, Brian, daughter, Debbie, and three grandchildren.

## Retirees

**T**he following employees retired effective Aug. 1:

**Joyce Wiginton** - Marion County Health Department

**Rebecca Hall** - Health Care Facilities

**Evelyn Johnson** - Health Care Facilities

## Note of thanks

**L**inda and H.E. Harrison wish to thank current and former Health Department staff for their expressions of sympathy in the recent loss of his daughter, Kim S. Harrison.

# Training provided in new National Women's and Minority Health Database

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health has funded a project to develop a new national women's and minority health database. The goal of the project is to provide state and local public health agencies with reliable comparative data for monitoring health status changes,



Attending the session were Jessica Hardy, ADPH Office of Women's Health director; Alfred Meltzer, consultant, Quality Resource Systems, Inc.; Annie Brayboy Fair, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Women's Health/Region IV; and Gwen Lipscomb, director, ADPH Office of Minority Health.

developing grant proposals, and performing other program and policy related tasks.

This database will provide a single source of capturing "extensive health data by age, race/ethnicity and sex." It is a Microsoft Access database with mapping ability.

The data used in the database include national, state and county levels of data. The outcomes expected from this database development project are as follows:

- \* HHS Regional Health Status Indicators Books
- \* Regional Women's and Minority Health Status Indicators Database on CD
- \* On-site training in how to use the Database and
- \* An Internet-based National Database

Staff from the Computer Systems Center assisted with set-up for the training session held July 31 in Montgomery. In addition to training health department employees, representatives from state universities, the Department of Human Resources, the Cooperative Extension System and the Department of Mental Health/Mental Retardation

participated in the day-long session.

The contracting company's consultants provided training to each participant present through demonstrations during hands on exercises using laptop computers provided by their consulting company. Database CDs and Health Status Indicator books will be available through the Alabama Department of Public Health's Office of Women's Health.

For more information contact Jessica Hardy, M.P.H., Director, Office of Women's Health, Office of Professional and Support Services, (334) 206-5665, e-mail [jhardy@adph.state.al.us](mailto:jhardy@adph.state.al.us).



Participants were provided hands on training in a database with mapping ability.

## Nurse.....continued from page 2

- Health (physical and mental health)
- Home and neighborhood environment
- Family and friend support
- Parental role
- Life course (pregnancy planning, education and employment)

The nurses involve the mother's support system including family members. They help families use other health and human services they may need.

## DID YOU KNOW:

- Using Lotus Word Pro, you can create sections and divisions that will make longer documents easier to navigate.
- By allowing you to create document versions for comparison, Lotus Word Pro simplifies group editing.
- You can create attractive newsletters using Lotus Word Pro.
- You can link data from different Lotus 1-2-3 workbooks so that information only needs to be updated once.
- Lotus 1-2-3's smartfill feature can copy formulas to other cells changing the relevant references.
- In Lotus 1-2-3, you can create query tables to find only the information you need in a particular workbook.
- You can create labels from existing Lotus Approach databases.
- By joining two or more related Approach databases, you can share the information contained in both eliminating duplicate data entry.
- You can create simple form letters using Approach databases.



The Computer Systems Center  
*presents*

# Lotus SmartSuite

## FREE TRAINING!

**Beginning in September we will offer free Lotus SmartSuite training (Lotus Word Pro, 1-2-3, Approach and Freelance Graphics).**

- Training will take place in the RSA Tower.
- Class size is limited to 10 per session.
- Participants will receive a user manual and training certificate.
- Training will use a mobile classroom – *training can come to you!*
- There will be two levels of training – beginner and advanced.
- Classes can be customized for different programs, bureaus, etc.
- Standard training – 2 day sessions.

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

The Lotus Users Group Member for your Bureau  
or send an email to [csctraining@adph.state.al.us](mailto:csctraining@adph.state.al.us)

# Commendations

**H**ealth department employees who are listed here have received letters of commendation recently. To recognize other employees, please send letters through your supervisors or the state health officer to *Alabama's Health*.

**Jamie Boyle**  
Home and Community Services

From Ronald Grantland  
Decatur, Ala.

**Linda Bolding**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Catherine Slagle  
Address unlisted

**Beverly Jo Carswell**  
Office of Radiation Control

From Guida Rothstein, RTRM  
Athens, Ala.

**Kathryn Chapman**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Robert Brantley  
Montgomery, Ala.

**Jacqueline Giddens**  
Home and Community Services

From Nancy Headley  
Montgomery, Ala.

**Liz Gordon**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Mirenda Benton  
Address unlisted

**Annie Green**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Otha Tucker  
Huntsville, Ala.

**Tricia Hartley**  
Walker County Health Department

From Mary Anne Seel  
Jasper, Ala.

**Nicole Henderson**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Essie Simmons  
Montgomery, Ala.

**Evelyn Jackson**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Barbara J. McCants  
Detroit, Mich.

**Cathy Molchan**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Steven Schwartz  
Address unlisted

**Nick Moss**  
Video Communications

From N. William Layfield  
Mobile, Ala.

**Kathie Peters**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Anika Lanier  
Address unlisted

**Karen Raspberry**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Debbie L. Driver  
Muskegon, Mich.  
And from Rachel P. Maddox  
Address unlisted

**Joann Robinson**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Probate Judge Hagler  
Paul Wilson  
Addresses unlisted

**Betty Strickland**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Helen Jones  
Address unlisted

**Wendy Washington**  
Center for Health Statistics

From Johnnie and Lyn Harris  
Address unlisted

**Marion Wilford**  
Communications & Social Marketing

From Amanda Calhoun  
Auburn, Ala.

# Calendar of Events



**August 20**

Medicaid Eligibility Update, For Alabama Case Managers, 10-11:30 a.m. For more information contact Priscilla Miles, (334) 242-5658.



**August 26**

ICD-9-CM Coding Update, 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Janice McIntosh, (334) 347-2664, extension 400.



**August 27**

Preconception Counseling, Public Health Staff Development, 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Annie Vosel, (334) 206-2959.



**September 17**

HIV and Females, Public Health Staff Development, 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Debbie Thomasson, (334) 206-5648.



**September 24**

Home Health Aide and Home Attendant Continuing Education, 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Janice McIntosh, (334) 347-2664, extension 400.



**September 30**

Steps to Success in Community-Based HIV/AIDS Prevention Program: How to Determine Who is at Risk and Why (Module 1 of 3), 1-3 p.m. For more information contact Video Communications Division, (334) 206-5618.



**October 2**

ADPH Statewide Staff Meeting, 3-4 p.m. For more information contact Jim McVay, Dr.P.A., (334) 206-5600.



**October 3**

Nurse Practitioner Billing and Reimbursement, time to be announced. For more information contact Genelle Lee, Alabama Board of Nursing, (334) 242-4184.



**October 8**

HIV and Pharmacology, Public Health Staff Development, 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Debbie Thomasson, (334) 206-5648.



**October 29**

Bessie Brooks Seminar, Home Health Aide and Home Attendant Continuing Education, 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Janice McIntosh, (334) 347-2664, extension 400.